

TIMES SPORTING PAGE



TENER INTIMATES NATIONAL LEAGUE MAY BAR SPITTER

Warns Young Players Not to Develop Use of Moist Delivery—Giants Not Guilty of Breaking Rules.

New York, Feb. 22.—President Tener issued a warning yesterday to young pitchers not to cultivate the use of the spitball and also gave a word of advice to National League pitchers, relying solely on the spitball, that it will be to their advantage to experiment with another form of delivery during the coming season.

"Young pitchers starting to play professionally will find it profitable to keep away from the spitball," said Tener. "From present signs this mode of delivery will not remain in good standing much longer, and young pitchers might as well get accustomed to pitch the ball with no artificial help as the spirit of the game always intended.

"It also will be advantageous for National League pitchers who rely solely on the spitball to experiment with some other form of delivery during the coming season. As no meeting of the rules committee was held during the winter the spitball still will be permissible during the 1918 season, but I can't say how much longer it will be permitted after that.

"All three members of the National League rules committee, Dreyfuss, Heydler and myself, are opposed to the spitball and favor its abolishment. To my sense the spitball is a disgusting, unsanitary form of pitching, which has no place in baseball."

The Giants are not guilty of violating the spirit of the thirty days training rule because Heinie Zimmerman, Larry Doyle and the leading battery men of the club will report at Hot Springs, Ark., on March 4, eleven days before the regular National League training season.

A National League rule limits each team to only thirty days of training. The announcement that the Giant battery men and veteran infielders would be out at Hot Springs for ten days prior to moving on to Marlin has brought a rise out of Pittsburgh.

"I do not see how our thirty day training rule prevents a group of Giant players from spending a week at Hot Springs before reporting for the regular training trip," said Tener. "Of course if the whole club was sent there it might be different, but in the case of the Giants I do not think the spirit of our training rule is violated."

"I look at the Giant players boiling out at Hot Springs and taking light exercise as I would at a bunch of players visiting a gymnasium to get their muscles loosened up before the training trip. No one could possibly object to that. If these players want to use medicinal waters to limber themselves up we surely will register no objections."

Talk Of Sports

THOSE "PURPLE COWS."

"I never saw a purple cow." It's really not surprising; A sight like that would cause a row and set my hair to rising. If ever I should come across Some purple colored king, My mind would be a total loss.—The Booby Hatch for mine.

Discovering stars—the baseball kind, of course—is one thing, and signing them up is quite another, as President Weechman of the Cubs can testify. Alexander has been given his bonus, and now Bill Killefer, his battery mate, is a holdout. A baseball club president's life is not always a merry one.

Meatless days are killing two birds with one stone, in the opinion of Manager Rowland of the White Sox, who says that players eat too much meat anyway for their own good. Rowland says the men will play faster on less carnivorous meals.

Well, if that is the case, why not let the boys starve, put a meal on a motorcycle, and let it go around the bases and out into the field when the ball is hit. Then you'd see 'em go after it, all right. It would make the play still faster.

SWEET PEAS, VIOLETS, TULIPS, DAFNODILS.
JOHN RECK & SON.

AMENDS NEW YORK BOXING MEASURE

Albany, Feb. 22.—Marty McCue, Democratic Assemblyman from Manhattan and former pugilist, yesterday overhauled his bill to revise the many art of boxing. The principal changes made in the measure are:

"No betting is to be allowed in any building where boxing exhibitions take place.

"No liquor may be sold in any building while a boxing match is going on. Clubs belonging to the Amateur Athletic Union will not be required to pay the license fee for the right to conduct boxing exhibitions.

"The fee in Rochester and Buffalo is reduced to \$1,000."

Billy Madden Follows Pal To Other Life

Veteran Trainer of John L. Sullivan Dies In Hospital of Stomach Trouble—Brooded Over Death of His Prigee.

New York, Feb. 22.—Billy Madden, the first manager of John L. Sullivan, followed his famous protegee on the Great Adventure yesterday.

Madden died at 8 o'clock last night in the White Plains Hospital, whither he had been taken by his friend Billy Muldoon, former heavyweight champion wrestler. An affliction of the stomach was the direct cause of Madden's death.

The veteran pugilist and manager had been ailing for several months. On Wednesday he left his farm at Cairo, N. Y., and went to consult with Muldoon at the latter's White Plains establishment regarding a place to go to recuperate after an operation which he contemplated undergoing.

"When he arrived," said Muldoon last night, "he was very weak. He stayed with me until today, when we repaired to the White Plains Hospital to find out about the operation. The physicians there decided to wait until Billy recovered a bit from his extreme weakness before attempting an operation, but he failed rapidly and expired at about 8 o'clock."

Billy Madden was born in Liverpool, England, about 45 years ago. At an early age he took up the profession of boxing and gained quite a name for himself as a middleweight in the days when London prize ring rules were in force.

He acted as sparring partner for George Farley, one of the top-notchers of his day.

However, Billy soon tired of the strenuous end of the game and became a referee. From this he turned to the managerial end. It was he who brought out the great John L. and it was he who brought Charles Mitchell, champion of England, to this country to box Sullivan in Madison Square Garden.

"Madden seemed greatly depressed over the passing of his old friend and pupil, John L. Sullivan," Muldoon last night. "He talked incessantly of John L. and there didn't seem to be any getting his mind off our friend's going away. He went over all the old trials and triumphs with Sullivan in a way that made me realize he was greatly depressed."

"I really think that Sullivan's going made Billy realize that he himself was nearing the end. Madden was a fine fellow and one of the shrewdest and best managers and trainers that boxing has ever known."

Billy Madden had much to do with the development of John L. Sullivan. It was Madden who quickly saw the power and ability of the "Boston Strong Boy."

Prof. Mike Donovan, then in his prime as a middleweight, saw the wonderful Roxbury youth, and after one lift with him told Madden that he had better look the Sullivan youth over as a chap who might some day be famous. Madden took Donovan's tip and saw Sullivan. Immediately he pronounced him the best looking cub that had ever come to his notice.

With a few fights to set the ball a-rolling, Madden took Sullivan on a tour of the country, offering \$50 to any man who would stand four rounds with the Boston Strong Boy. The amount was increased later on. It was this trip that did more to bring Sullivan into prominence than anything that he ever did in his whole career.

Madden remained with Sullivan for years, and of all the men who were associated with the impulsive Bostonian, Madden was best fitted to handle him. Indeed, Madden was a spunky fellow even when Sullivan was at his best, and when words didn't make John L. walk a chalkmark, little Madden coaxed him into still another boxing lesson, during which he laid down the law as he saw fit.

Madden always got the best possible in the way of fighting out of the men he handled. Besides Sullivan, during his career, he was manager, advisor and trainer of such ring stars as Jack Dempsey, Jack McAuliffe, Gus Ruhlin and Peter Maher. During the last few years Madden had conducted a little health farm at Cairo.

Madden did not give up the active life of training and managing boxers until he saw that the heavyweights had dwindled away until they were a bad lot at best. Then he decided to purchase the Cairo farm. He had a small piece of property at Valley Stream, L. I., and when he tried to sell it pay the option on the farm he found the real estate men who had sold it to him going the other way.

JIMMY BUTWELL IN THE NEXT DRAFT

New York, Feb. 22.—Jimmy Butwell will wear khaki instead of racing silks this summer. He has been placed in Class 1 by his District Exemption Board and will be called to the colors in the next draft.

Thus one of the most capable riders will be lost to the turf for the period of the war, and R. F. Curran and Wilfred Vian, to whom he is under contract, will have to look for another stable jockey.

Butwell has been near the head of the list for many years. Last season he rode for August Belmont, and before that Andrew Miller had first call on his services when Roamer was at the top of his form.

Magnates Not to Go Out of Way to Sign Up Holdouts

Owners Won't Be Intimidated, Says Tener—Stage Isn't Open to Recalcitrants—Doesn't Suspect Plot.

TERRY MCGOVERN ILL TWO DAYS, DEAD

New York, Feb. 22.—Terry McGovern, former world featherweight champion, died at the Kings county hospital at 9:25 this morning. He had been sick only two days.

Pneumonia and kidney trouble, complicated with other ailments, brought on the boxer's end within 48 hours from the time he was removed in an ambulance from his Brooklyn home to the hospital. His wife was with him when he died. McGovern had one son, Joseph, aged 19.

McGovern was reported to have earned several hundred thousand dollars during his fighting career. After

New York, Feb. 22.—Ball players who are holding out for more money need not expect their employers to go out of their way to sign them, said President Tener of the National League yesterday, in discussing the general holdout situation. Tener frankly admitted that the majority of National League players still were unsigned for the coming season, but predicted that the athletes soon would come out of the wet when convinced that the club owners were firm.

"This is one season in which you will not find club owners chasing around the country with a contract and fountain pen begging players to sign," said Tener. "It isn't a particularly good season for holdouts. There are several hundred stars right here in New York without jobs."

"I think the club owners try to be fair with their players, and I know of no case where an injustice has been done to a player. It is true that a number of men had the misfortune to have their salaries cut, while others who thought they were entitled to increases were offered the same money as was paid them last year."

"As a matter of fact, what really has occurred is a return to common sense baseball values. I realize that during these war times it is hard on a man to have his salary cut, but at the same time ball players must realize that the big leagues have had some tough sledding with an uncertain year ahead."

"Salaries which have been reduced were for the most part salaries which were artificially inflated by the Federal League. Many of these Federal League salaries were out of all proportion to the players' work. Then the big offers for certain stars, tales of the big salaries and bonuses paid some of the stars have tended to give ball players a wrong perspective on baseball values."

"Ball players also must recall that the big leagues still are carrying the burdens of the Federal League. The expenses of the club owner, including taxes, assessments and other things are far above what they were in 1914, yet salaries offered for the coming season run pretty much the same as salaries of five years ago."

"I do not believe there is any organized attempt to coerce the club owners into paying bigger salaries. Players on different teams may have talked it over, and compared notes, but I do not believe the holdout is being directed from outside."

ABE ATTELL IS THIRTY-FOUR TODAY

Abe Attell is 34 years old today, having been born in San Francisco on Washington's Birthday in 1884. After several attempts to come back Abe is through with the boxing game is through with him.

The clever little Hebrew ring general who has for years the moniker of the featherweights appeared for the last time a little over a year ago, when he met Phil Virgetts in New Orleans. Virgetts, unknown, unheralded and unsung, was awarded the victory over the former champion in the fourth round. The fact of the matter is that Father Time licked Abe, and not Virgetts. Attell looked like a comeback for a little while, but in the fourth round he crumpled up, completely exhausted, and was unconscious for five minutes.

It was just six days ago today that Attell lost his featherweight title to Johnny Kilbane in a 20-round bout at Vernon. The following November he met Aliver Kirk in St. Louis and in the sixth round he quit, publicly announcing his retirement from the ring. Within a few months he had yielded to the temptation to try a comeback, and met Kirk again, knocking him out. After that he again retired, and tried to come back for some time, but his last attempt was so disastrous that he never tried again.

RICE IN NAVY.

Washington, Feb. 22.—Samuel Rice, star hitter of the Washington club, has notified the Washington club that he has enlisted in the navy. He joined the sea fighters in Chicago. Rice was regarded here as the leading asset of the Washington club next to Walter Johnson.

Red Sox Aren't Certain of Acquiring Stuffy McInnis

New York, Feb. 22.—Contrary to general impression the possession of Stuffy McInnis is not yet absolutely assured to the Red Sox, and Connie Mack is not obliged to accept whomsoever Harry Frazee and Ed Barrow choose to transfer to him. In fact, despite the Boston club's having signed McInnis to a contract, Barrow is confronted with a great problem in completing the deal, and in the long run it may have to resolve itself into a strictly cash transaction.

Within the last month Mack has been offered \$50,000 for McInnis. If by March 15 the Boston club does not offer a consideration to the liking of the leader of the Athletics he will have the option of taking back the first baseman or selling him outright either to the Red Sox or the rival bidder, which may be either Cleveland or Chicago, with emphasis on the former.

The acquisition of McInnis on the basis of a return in players is a tough nut for Barrow to crack, especially since Mack has established a salary limit reported to be \$25,000. If Boston let go of Gardner it would be in a worse condition than it would be without McInnis. Dick Hobitzell is a rather satisfactory first baseman. The Red Sox need a second baseman, and some years ago it was proved to the complete satisfaction of both Mack and McInnis that Stuffy was not a second sacker of even average calibre. If the war ended before the season opened Barrow would have McNally for third base and he could spare Gardner, but just now the war is very much with us and Barrow is up a tree.

The acquisition of McInnis by the Red Sox has some elements of the purchase of Frank Baker by the Yankees. Previous to Baker's coming the Yanks, in the person of Fritz Malsel, had one of the best third basemen in the league. However, Baker's greater batting and box office prestige gave him the call and Malsel was sent to second. There he proved inept and he was shifted to the outfield. Out there he was even a greater failure. He predicted that he would injure himself in the outfield and one damp afternoon he took a header on the slimy grass and broke his collar bone. Baker is a great ball player, but it is Tankees, besides ruining the career of Malsel.

COMPARES LEAR TO HEINE ZIMMERMAN

A writer in the New York Sun says: "In the Lear whom we declared a first base possibility for the Cubs we are informed by no less an authority than Ernie Lanigan that we referred to the wrong Lear. The Lear who has been acquired by the Cubs from Bridgeport is not, as we stated, the Lear who once pitched for Princeton. The Cub Lear is Fred, while the old Tiger's front name is Charles E. Fred is a New York product and played third base at Villanova College. From there he went to the Athletics, with whom he remained for 10 minutes—long enough to get his transfer to Wheeling."

"A Bronx friend of the new Cub Lear writes us that he is big and fast and plays and hits after the manner of Heinie Zimmerman."

GREEN LOSES AGAIN.

Springfield, Mass., Feb. 22.—The Springfield Y. M. C. A. College basketball team easily bested Dartmouth College here last night by a score of 54 to 25. The Green five was outclassed in almost every department of the game.

FRANKIE BURNS WINS BOUT.

Scranton, Pa., Feb. 22.—Frankie Burns, the Jersey City bantamweight, defeated Jack Sharkey of New York, in a fast ten-round bout here last night. Burns had the better of the fight throughout.

HARTFORD WOMAN IS WINNER AT BELLAIRE

Belleair, Fla., Feb. 22.—Miss Harriet E. Shepard of Hartford, Conn., won the Washington's Birthday women's tennis tournament at the Belleair yesterday when she defeated Miss Louise Jorgens of Garden City in the final, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3. The Hartford girl played a strong game, her backhand featuring. In the semi-finals Miss Shepard defeated Miss Marion Kerr of New York, while Miss Jorgens eliminated Miss Peggy Smith of New York.

DANFORTH SIGNS CONTRACT.

Chicago, Feb. 22.—Pitcher Danforth of the Chicago Americans, signed a 1918 contract yesterday, dispelling reports that he was a hold-out.

ANDRE ANDERSON JOINS ARMY.

Chicago, Feb. 22.—Andre Anderson, a Chicago heavyweight, was accepted yesterday for the National Army. He will be stationed at Camp Grant, Anderson, who is 6 feet 4 inches tall and weighs 218 pounds, was pronounced physically perfect. He did not claim exemption.

And now Fred Snodgrass, the former Giant, has abdicated from the game for good, after playing last summer with the Vernon club of the Pacific Coast League. Well, Fred, where is your orange grove? Or is it a chicken farm?